

*green spores.* When first caught on white paper, the spores of mature specimens are a beautiful bright green; they soon change, however, to a dull green. I observe this year the spores of immature specimens to be greenish-yellow with scarcely a perceptible tinge of green. I find this Agaric during the last of August and first week or two of September after continued rains: it grows in open grassy places on rich soil. I would like to ascertain its distribution and would be pleased to receive notes from botanists who may meet with it. I should think it might be found in Kentucky and Indiana.—A. P. MORGAN, *Dayton, O.*

SEEDS OF *ERODIUM CICUTARIUM*.—I have thought that a few facts in regard to *Erodium cicutarium*, the Alfillerilla or Pinweed of California would be of interest to the readers of the GAZETTE. It is a great pasture plant in California and is very common all over the State. Cattle and horses eat it with avidity, and there is so much nutriment in it that even when dried on the ground so as to form a naturally cured hay, they get fat on it. It is to the seeds, however, that I wish to call attention. They are five in number, each with a long hairy awn, all of them united to an upright stylus. The seeds are hard and have sharp points, sticking with great tenacity into every thing they touch. If, when nearly ripe, the seeds are taken and separated from each other and laid upon the hand, or any other place for that matter, the awns will begin to twist. As the drying goes on, the coil gets tighter and tighter until a close coil for about half the length of the awn is formed. The untwisted end sticks out at right angles. Thus the seeds lie during all the long dry summer, ready when the first rains of autumn come to sprout and take root. When they are wet by the rain, the coiled up awn begins to untwist, and it would appear as if the sharp point of the seed would be forced in the ground by this action. Such I am not positive is the case, but reasoning from analogy it might be said so. We know that the awns of several species of grasses have this habit of twisting and that they are forced into the ground, and the inference is just that the same result takes place with *Erodium*. When we consider the number of seeds produced by each plant, and the provision Nature has made for its dissemination and preservation, it is no wonder that it is so common all over the State.—J. F. JAMES, *Los Angeles, Cal.*

TILLANDSIAS UNDER CULTIVATION.—During my trip to Florida last winter I collected a large number of these curious air plants. Arriving home about March first, I put them in my green-house where they have done well, and

several of *T. bracteata* have thrown up long spikes and blossomed—though much later than in their native clime. From the lot I selected a cluster of *T. cæspitosa*, Leconte, for my dry herbarium, thinking that it would dry out. But I noticed after some time that the plant seemed green, so I tied its roots upward to a rafter, where it was deprived entirely of moisture. And now after nearly six months it has assumed a thoroughly live appearance and increased in growth amazingly. By spring it will no doubt blossom. The long moss, *T. usneoides*, of which I hung quantities on my cherry trees in the yard, has grown very fast all summer and I dread the approach of frost, when it must succumb to the rigors of our northern climate.—W. W. CALKINS

NOMENCLATURE IN ATLANTIC U. S. POLYPETALÆ.—The article in the GAZETTE for August, p. 193, noting changes in the names of the Polypetalæ of the Manual, as indicated in Watson's Bibliographical Index, brings to view an error in that carefully prepared index, either clerical or typographical, which has till now escaped detection. The GAZETTE notes "*Cardamine rhomboidea*, var. *purpurea*, Torr., is *C. rotundifolia*, Mx." Those who know the two plants will not need to be told that this is wrong. The three synonyms adduced under *C. rotundifolia* in the Index must have been accidentally inserted under that species, instead of under *C. rhomboidea*.

There are a few other names in the list in respect to which the Index hardly gives the last word. Although the question is a nice one, the author of the Index would on reconsideration, probably prefer *Spergularia* to *Lepigonum*; the change of *Sullivantia Ohionis* into *S. Ohioensis* was accidental; *Dalibarda repens* (*pace* Benth. & Hook.) will probably stand as the type of a good genus; and whoever uses the Linnæan name of *Vitis arborea* for a species which is not arborescent is not entitled to forego *Epilobium angustifolium*, L., (well enough named in contradistinction to its relative *E. latifolium*, L.,) in behalf of the much later *E. spicatum* of Lamarck. Apparently the same rule should govern the two cases.—A. GRAY.

FLORA OF DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS.—It has been my bad or good fortune to live in this little corner of the world for twenty years, but it is only for ten years that I have given earnest attention to botanical pursuits. During that time I have collected carefully all the plants I have found in the country. Very few I think can have escaped my constant search, so that the following figures may be considered correct. There are 839 indigenous species, to which must be added 66 introduced species that have taken such a foothold that they may be considered indigenous, making a